

Appl. No. 10/663,096

Amendment dated July 14, 2004

Reply to Non-Final Office Action of May 21, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A device for dispensing a spreadable material comprising a ~~tube-like~~ tubular holding element having a dispensing end and a tube base at an end opposite the dispensing end, in which tubular holding element is arranged an internally screwthreaded, non-rotatable piston-like element that carries the spreadable material and that is displaceable longitudinally from the tube base of the tubular holding element to the dispensing end by an externally operated control wheel provided at the tube base end of the tubular holding element, the control wheel comprising an axially supported externally screwthreaded spindle that extends rotatably through an opening in the tube base into the tubular holding element and that co-operates with the internal screwthread of the piston-like element, so that when the piston-like element is drawn adjacent to the tube base, the spindle is able to slop relative to the piston-like element if it is rotated any further, wherein the screwthread-free region of the spindle has a smaller length than the internal screwthread of the piston element.

2. (canceled)

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3. (currently amended) The device of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the internal screwthread of the piston-~~like~~ element remains in contact with the thread of the spindle when the piston-~~like~~ element is drawn adjacent to the tube base.